

Remarks

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner defines Figure 17 as species 12, and separately defines Figure 18 as species 13. However, Figures 17 and 18 represent the same embodiment of the invention, and therefore these figures cannot be defined as separate species. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that species 12 should be defined by both Figures 17 and 18. Support for this assertion is found, for example, at page 32, lines 17-20 of the specification:

Figures 17 and 18 illustrate an absorbent garment 600 that may be formed from the unfinished garment 20. Figure 17 is a front view of the garment 600 in a non-fastened configuration and Figure 18 is a perspective view of the garment 600 in a fastened configuration.

Applicant hereby elects for continued prosecution the species of Figures 17 and 18, on which claims 1-4, 6, and 9-13 read. Claims 5, 7, 8 and 14-28 are withdrawn from consideration.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that no fees are necessary in connection with the filing of this document. In the event any fees are necessary, please charge such fees, including fees for any extensions of time, to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206. Should any outstanding issues remain, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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